

Connecticut Weekly AGRICULTURAL REPORT

Dannel P. Malloy, Governor
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Connecticut Department of Agriculture
March 8, 2016



Melanie and Thomas Olajos face charges of animal cruelty after an investigation at their Fairy Tail Equine facility.

JUDGE AWARDS DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE CUSTODY OF HORSES SEIZED IN EAST HAMPTON CRUELTY CASE

(HARTFORD, CT) The Department of Agriculture today was granted ownership of 32 horses and numerous other animals seized last month from Fairy Tail Equine in East Hampton in an animal-cruelty investigation.

The ruling by Hartford Superior Court Judge Nina Elgo was based on an agreement between the department - represented by the Office of the Attorney General - and the horses' former owners that was struck just before a custody hearing was to begin.

Fairy Tail Equine owners Thomas Olajos, 36, and his wife Melanie Olajos, 37, were each charged last week with 35 counts of cruelty to animals - 32 counts for each of the horses seized and three counts stemming from the alleged mistreatment of two dogs, 19 rabbits and 78 chickens removed from Fairy Tail Equine on Feb. 2.

Their arrest came after an investigation found they failed to provide proper food, water, veterinary care and shelter to the animals, despite the efforts of state animal control officers to allow the couple to voluntarily improve the animals'

treatment.

In court on Tuesday, an attorney for the Olajos said while they were "cash-strapped" and unable to properly care for the animals, their emotional attachment to the animals also prevented them from selling or otherwise dispersing them.

The horses - mainly Friesians, Andalusians, and Gypsy Vanners, are being cared for at the department's large animal rehabilitation facility in Niantic, and the other animals at various municipal shelters in the state.

The department will now determine what steps will be taken to find new homes for the animals.

Both Olajos were released on \$10,000 non-surety bonds after their arrest and are scheduled to appear in Middletown Superior Court on March 15.

Thomas Olajos was subsequently arrested by state police on an outstanding warrant charging him with issuing a bad check to a farm in Woodbury. He was released on a \$1,000 non-surety bond in that case.

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LANCASTER, PA., LIVESTOCK SUMMARY

Avg. Dressing

SLAUGHTER COWS:	LOW	HIGH
breakers 75-80% lean	74.00	79.50
boners 80-85% lean	74.00	79.50
lean 88-90% lean	70.00	76.00
SLAUGHTER STEERS		
Hi Ch/Prime 3-4	128.00	133.00
Choice 2-3	124.50	128.50
Sel 2-3	119.00	124.50
SLAUGHTER HOLSTEIN STEERS		
HiCh/Prm 2-3	117.00	121.00
Ch 2-3	110.00	116.00
Sel 2-3	104.00	108.50
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
Hi Ch/Prime 2-3	127.00	129.50
Ch 2-3	124.00	126.00
Sel 1-2	121.00	123.50
CALVES Graded bull		
No 1 110-128 lbs	190.00	197.00
No 1 98-108 lbs	211.00	222.00
No 1 90-96 lbs	227.00	237.00

SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn

Markets: Choice and Prime 2-3

40-50 lbs	305.00	325.00
50-60 lbs	270.00	295.00
60-70 lbs	250.00	270.00
70-80 lbs	250.00	260.00
80-90 lbs	230.00	255.00
90-110 lbs	215.00	232.00
110-130 lbs	207.00	210.00
130-150 lbs	170.00	187.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3		
80-120 lbs	90.00	102.00
120-160 lbs	80.00	105.00
160-200 lbs	80.00	90.00
200-300 lbs	70.00	85.00

BUCKS

200-300 lbs	70.00	115.00
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SLAUGHTER KIDS: Select 1, by head, est.

40-60 lbs	135.00	185.00
60-80 lbs	200.00	220.00
80-100 lbs	225.00	255.00
100-120 lbs	240.00	270.00

SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES: Sel 1, by head, est.

80-130 lbs	200.00	240.00
130-180 lbs	220.00	260.00

SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES: Sel 2-3, by head

Sel 2 - 50-80 lbs, pygmies	125.00	155.00
Sel 3 - 50-80 lbs, pygmies	90.00	120.00

SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES: Select 1

100-150 lbs	210.00	245.00
150-250 lbs	250.00	350.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION

52-56	200-300 lbs	53.00	64.00
	300-350 lbs	50.00	59.00
	350-400 lbs	36.50	40.00
48-52	200-300 lbs	43.00	52.00
	300-350 lbs	39.00	45.50
	350-400 lbs	29.50	42.00
Sows, US 1-3			
	300-500 lbs	31.00	36.00
	500-800 lbs	31.00	35.50
Boars	400-500 lbs	3.00	9.00

WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES

Boston Terminal and Wholesale Grower Prices

NEW ENGLAND GROWN

	LOW	HIGH
APPLES, EMPIRE, 120/140, #1, BU	15.00	16.00
APPLE, GALA, FANCY, 125	18.00	18.00
APPLE, GALA, FANCY, 138	17.00	17.00
APPLES, MACS, FANCY, 80, 88	17.00	17.00
APPLES, MACS, FANCY, 120, 140	17.00	17.00
APPLES, MAC, #1, CELLPK, 140	15.00	16.00
APPLE, MACS, FCY, 12-3LB, 2-1/2"	15.00	16.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 10 LBS	5.00	6.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 12-12 OZ	12.00	15.00
BEET, CHIOGGA, LOOSE, 25LBS	12.00	14.00
BEETS, GOLD, LOOSE, 25 LBS	12.00	12.00
BEETS, RED, ORG, 25 LBS	8.00	8.00
PARSNIPS, MED, 20 LBS	20.00	22.00
POTATO, YLLW, #1, CHEF, 50LB	12.00	14.00
SQUASH, BUTTNT, 1-1/9	13.00	14.00
TOMATOES, GHSE, 25 LBS	24.00	26.00
TOMS, GHS, CHRY, ONVINE, 5LB	16.00	16.00
TOMS, GHSE, 11 LB FLATS	23.00	24.00
TOMATO, HEIRLM, GHSE, 10LBS	24.00	28.00
TURNIP, PRPLTP, ORG, 25LBS	12.00	13.00

SHIPPED IN

APPL, BRAEBRN, WA, XFCY, 88	34.00	36.00
APPLE, FUJI, ORG, XFCY, WA, 80	74.00	74.00
APPLE, FUJI, WAXFCY, 80	42.00	44.00
APPLE, GALA, WAXFCY, 80	48.00	50.00
APPL, GLD DEL, ORG, XF, WA, 80	52.00	52.00
APPL, GLD DEL, WAXFCY, 80	40.00	40.00
APPLE, MAC, XFCY, NY, 100	26.00	26.00
APPLE, RED DEL, NY, XFCY, 88	20.00	20.00
APPLE, ROME, NY, XFCY, 64	22.00	22.00
BASIL, FL, 15	26.00	27.00
BOKCHOY, BABY, FL, 1.5 BU	29.00	32.00
CABBAGE, RED, NY, 50 LBS	16.00	16.00
CARROTS, 50 LBS	21.00	22.00
CORN, BICOLOR, FL, 4-41/2 DZ	32.00	36.00
CUKE, LNG, GHSE, FLMWRP, 12	12.00	14.00
DANDELION, TX, 12 BNCH	18.00	18.00
EGGPLANT, WRAPPED, FL, 1-1/9	24.00	26.00
ENDIVE, GHSE, BELGIUM, 5KG	15.00	17.00
ESCAROLE, FL, 1-1/9, 24	26.00	30.00
KALE, LACINITO, CA, 12	18.00	18.00
LETT, BSTN, GHS, CAN, 12-4OZ	16.00	17.00
LETT, OAKLF, CA, 2.2 LBS	11.00	13.00
MESCULIN MIX, ORG, CA, 3LBS	8.00	8.00
MINT, FL, 1/2 BU, 12	12.00	14.00
MUSHRM, WHT, ORG, PA, 12-8OZ	17.00	17.00
MUSHRM, SHITAKE, PA, 3LBS	11.00	15.00
MUSHRM, OYSTER, PA, 5LBS	18.00	20.00
MUSHRM, ENOKI, PA, 12-3.5OZ	18.00	19.00
ONIONS, YELLOW, NY, 50 LBS	15.00	17.00
ONIONS, RED, NY, 25 LBS	17.00	20.00
OREGANO, FL, 1 LB, 12 PER	8.00	9.00
PARSLEY, PLAIN, TX, 60	18.00	22.00
PEPPR, RED, ORG, GHS, MX, 5LB	26.00	26.00
PEPPR, CHRYHT, GHS, BEL, 3KG	25.00	30.00
RADISHES, FL, 30-6OZ	20.00	24.00
RUTABAGAS, CANADA, 50 LBS	14.00	18.00
SPINACH, BABY, ORG, CA, 4LBS	10.00	12.00
SPINACH, FLAT, TX, 24	22.00	24.00
STRAWBERRIES, ORG, FL, 8-1LB	20.00	20.00
SWISS CHARD, CA, 12	16.00	18.00
TOMATOES, 5X6	22.00	24.00
WNTRCRSS, GHS, ORG, PA, 2.2LB	26.00	26.00
WATERCRESS, FL, 24	18.00	20.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT, March 7, 2016

	LOW	HIGH
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	55.00	60.00
61-75 lbs.	75.00	135.00
76-90 lbs.	180.00	187.50
91-105 lbs.	192.50	195.00
106 lbs. & up	197.50	200.00
Farm Calves	205.00	215.00
Starter Calves	45.00	50.00
Veal Calves	150.00	250.00
Open Heifers	150.00	170.00
Beef Heifers	107.00	115.00
Feeder Steers	n/a	n/a
Beef Steers	101.00	115.00
Stock Bulls	120.00	150.00
Beef Bulls	1@	101.00
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	15.00	18.00
Butcher Hogs	n/a	n/a
Feeder Pigs	3@	35.00 ea
Sheep	125.00	155.00
Lambs	140.00	210.00
Goats each	110.00	195.00
Kid Goats	110.00	230.00
Canners	up to	74.50
Cutters	75.00	79.00
Utility Grade Cows	80.00	85.00
Rabbits each	22.00	40.00
Chickens each	5.00	25.00
Ducks each	10.00	22.50

NORTHEAST EGGS/USDA

Per doz. Grade A and Grade A white in cartons to retailers (volume buyers)

XTRA LARGE	.97	1.18
LARGE	.91	1.05
MEDIUM	.75	.88

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

Per doz. Grade A brown in carton delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	1.54	1.65
LARGE	1.46	1.55
MEDIUM	.97	1.07
SMALL	.76	.86

USDA - NORTHEAST HONEY REPORT

Honey:		
Retail, 1 lb.	9.00	12.00
Retail, 1 quart	18.00	20.00
Wholesale 5 gal	195.00	240.00
Natural, Wholesale, per lb	2.50	2.80
Raw, Wholesale, per lb	2.50	2.80
Propolis, tincture, 2oz	14.00	17.00
Pollen, per quart	26.00	30.00
Clean Wht Beeswax:		
Wholesale, 1 lb	5.50	5.75
Wholesale, bulk orders >50 lbs	2.20	3.50
Retail, per lb	16.00	20.00
Retail, per oz	1.50	1.50

USDA BI-WEEKLY WHOLESALE ORGANIC FEEDSTUFFS REPORT

per bushel, except where noted.

Feed Grade Corn	8.70	10.25
Feed Grade Oats	5.69	10.58
Feed grade Barley	6.50	9.28

FOR SALE

1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now Connecticut's first independent NATIONWIDE Agri-Business Insurance Agency. Christmas tree growers, beekeepers, sheep breeders, organic farmers and all others, call us for all your insurance needs. 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com

2-R. Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com

3-R. Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. Sonpal's Power Fence 860-491-2290.

4-R. Packaging for egg sales. New egg cartons, flats, egg cases, 30 doz and 15 doz. Polinsky Farm 860-376-2227.

5-R. Nationwide Agribusiness Insurance Program, endorsed by the CT Farm Bureau, save up to 23% on your farm insurance and get better protection. References available from satisfied farmers. Call Marci today at 203-444-6553.

9-R. CT Boot and Shoe offers top quality American Made work boots and shoes. Redwing, Thorogood, and Carolina brands. Free shipping in Connecticut. CT Boot, 33 River Street, Thomaston. Mention this ad to save \$20.00. 860-283-2385.

12-R. Six hoop houses – 28 x 96. Garage doors also available. Call 203-484-9708.

22-R. Hydraulic tilt deck trailer, 30 foot, winch, goose-neck, 10 ton. \$2,500.00. Army 6X6 diesel LWB, 3,000 miles. \$2,700.00. Army trailers. I-Beams: 14" and 16", 50 foot long. Call Richard, 203-598-0807.

25-R. McCormick #10 manure spreader. \$900.00 or B.O. 2 -6 foot mid mount sickle bar mowers for 8-N Ford. \$800.00 or B.O. 9 foot all steel flatbed body with electric lift, fits 350 Ford cab and chassis. \$1,400.00 or B.O. Hannay 50 gallon sprayer on wheels, needs battery. \$600.00. Pinco 25 kW generator on wheels. \$1,200.00 or B.O. 10 inch Craftsman table saw. \$125.00 or B.O. 4 rectangular fiberglass tanks, 80 to 200 gallon. \$80.00 to \$200.00. And, 4 section brooder on wheels. \$400.00 or B.O. Call Bruce @ 860-684-1621.

WANTED

17-R. Standing timber wanted. Hardwood/Softwood. Top prices paid. Licensed and insured. 10 acre minimum. 860-798-4039.

23-R. Emu wanted: We have a lone female who lost her boyfriend last fall. She needs a companion. People-friendly preferred. Please contact info@flamigfarm.com or 860-658-5070.

MISCELLANEOUS

6-R. Farm/Land specializing in land, farms, and all types of Real Estate. Established Broker with a lifetime of agricultural experience and 40 years of finance. Representing both Buyers and Sellers. Call Clint Charter of Wallace-Tetreault Realty (860) 644-5667.

24-R. The Connecticut Military Department has indoor stalls for lease at the Governor's Horse Guard facilities in Avon and Newtown. Monthly rate is \$350.00. For further information, please visit our website at www.ct.gov/mil/stall-lease or call 860-524-4968. Proceeds benefit Connecticut Governor's Horse Guards.

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According to the warrant used to secure the Olajos' arrest, an examination of each horse by an equine veterinarian after they were removed from Fairy Tail Equine found that "the herd as a whole had been neglected and was underweight."

The veterinarian's findings indicate that the horses had been neglected in a variety of ways, including nutrition, care of their hooves and teeth, grooming and wound care.

In addition to being underweight, many of the horses had active lice infestation, their manes and tails were matted and tangled, and many had a skin condition known as dermatitis and had fecal material caked on their tails and legs.

A veterinary exam of the two dogs, both Great Danes, found that one was a 2- to 3-year-old male that was emaciated, with a lack of muscle mass and its ribs, vertebrae and pelvic bones all evident.

The dog also had live fleas present, a superficial skin wound, calluses on both elbows, excessive discharge in its ears, whipworms, profuse diarrhea and anemia.

The other dog, a 1-year-old old female, was underweight and also had live fleas, current and healed wounds, conjunctivitis, and excessive discharge from both ears. The condition of its teeth suggested that the dog may have been chewing on rocks and dirt.

The chickens were underweight and malnourished when seized and most had little or no access to water. Necropsies on three of them found dead during the Feb. 2 seizure revealed that the birds were in poor body condition with very little content in their stomachs, minimal fat stores and other health issues including skin lesions and intestinal perforation consistent with aggression and cannibalism.

Ten chickens also in poor condition were found in a cage in the Olajos' house, which is directly adjacent to the horse paddock.

The rabbits, found in cages throughout the house, did have water and food available but both the animals and the cages were dirty.

Those wishing to donate to the care and feeding of the animals may make a contribution to the department's Animal Abuse Cost Recovery Account. Online donations by credit card may be made at:

<http://www.connecticutgrownstore.com/State-Animal-Abuse-Cost-Recovery-Account-Donation-DONATE001.htm>

or by check to:

**The Animal Abuse Cost Recovery Account
c/o Connecticut Department of Agriculture
165 Capitol Avenue, Room G-8A, Hartford, CT 06106**

The Dept. of Agriculture thanks those who have offered donations of feed, equipment or supplies. But because the animals require a prescribed diet and other special considerations, the department encourages donors to make contributions to the fund above so that appropriate items can be procured.



Connecticut Grown

maple syrup

Tap the Sweetness



The CT Dept. of Agriculture is promoting maple syrup during the month of March on several state radio stations, as well as Pandora radio and the agency Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/ConnecticutGrown and at CTGrown.gov/maplesyrup.

The ads feature the message: "What do pancakes, ice cream, vegetables, coffee and oatmeal have in common? They all taste better with Connecticut Grown maple syrup. Find a sugarhouse near you at CTGrown.gov/maplesyrup and tap into the sweetness."

Also visit our Pinterest page, pinterest.com/GrowCTAg, for sugaring facts, maple syrup recipes and sugarhouses open to the public.

REQUEST FOR SPECIALTY CROP BLOCK GRANT CONCEPT PROPOSALS

The CT Department of Agriculture is seeking concept proposal for projects that solely enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops. Specialty crops are defined by the USDA as fruits and vegetables, dried fruit, tree nuts, maple syrup, honey, horticulture, and nursery crops.

Projects must impact and produce measurable outcomes for the specialty crop industry and/or the public. Submitted projects cannot begin until after January 1, 2017, and must be completed by September 29, 2019. The maximum award is \$75,000.

More information and complete application guidelines are available at www.CTGrown.gov/grants.

Concept proposals are due to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture by 4 p.m. on **April 6, 2016** and should be submitted to jaime.smith@ct.gov. Questions may also be directed to Jaime at that email address or by calling 860-713-2559.

SUBMISSIONS DUE FOR CT SPECIALTY FOOD ASSOCIATION PRODUCT COMPETITION

Entry Deadline is March 14. Please mail all products to: Connecticut Specialty Food Association, 433 South Main Street, Suite 309, West Hartford, CT 06110.

Judging will be on March 22 at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville. This year's judges will include radio and television personalities, food writers, chefs and culinary and wine experts.

Judges will consider numerous product characteristics, such as appearance, aroma, taste, texture, overall appearance, and packaging.

The awards presentation will be held during the Connecticut Food Association's Hall of Fame Dinner on April 14 at the Aqua Turf Club. A press release announcing all winners will be sent to media throughout the state.

Perishable products only can be brought to CSFA on Monday, March 21 or to the Aqua Turf by 8:30 a.m. the day of the competition.

Contact Tricia Levesque at 860-216-4055 for additional information or visit www.ctspecialtyfood.org.

Advertising Rates: Fifteen or fewer words: \$3.75 per insertion. More than 15 words: 25 cents per word per insertion. Ads must be related to agriculture in Connecticut and are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Payment must be received by noon on Friday before publication the following Wednesday. Make check or money order payable to the Connecticut Dept. of Agriculture, and mail copy and remittance to the department at 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106. For more information contact Jane.Slupecki@ct.gov or call 860-713-2588.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, 165 Capitol Ave., Hartford, CT 06106.
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